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#### Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Adam Huehnergath, Parks and Recreation Manager  
RE: Monthly Directors Report February 2024  
CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator  
Date: March 18, 2024

#### **Aquatic Center:**

The hiring process is winding down. The two assistant managers have been selected and we will be identifying the head guards soon. We have decided to have our lifeguard training indoors in Hopkinton like last year to give myself and city staff ample time to get the pool in order to open on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The lifeguard class is scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup>. Under the advice of other aquatic directors and pool service companies we will begin to fill the pool earlier this year. This way we will use more natural ways to warm the pool water and stabilize the chemical balance.

#### **Community Garden:**

We are in the initial planning stages to design and use a community garden for this summer. The area identified is the city-owned property north of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W between the alley and the railroad tracks. Our beginning idea is to have 20 or so plots roughly 15'x15' separated by a grass pathway. The plots can be "rented" for a small fee. We plan on forming a gardening committee for ideas and to govern. I will be at Iowa Park and Rec meetings next week and will search other communities for ideas and best practices.

#### **Baseball/Softball:**

The baseball/softball season starts in 5 weeks. The teams will be drafted and uniforms will be ordered this week. Due to the good weather so far and the decision not to add more lime, the fields will be ready to practice earlier this year than any I remember. We have a total of 20 less baseball players this summer due somewhat to small class sizes in 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in Dyersville. Softball players have increased by 3 this year. Even with the lower totals, we will have one extra team in the Prairie League this summer. Scheduling is done by the Rec crew in Peosta and the first games are scheduled for the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup> running to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

I am on the planning committee to try and have an end-of-season tournament for all of the Prairie League teams July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will be an initial test to combat the deterioration of the local Prairie League tournaments. The tournament will be for all softball and C and D league baseball. Many of these games will be held in Dyersville since we have the field availability. We hope to have a better plan as the season progresses.